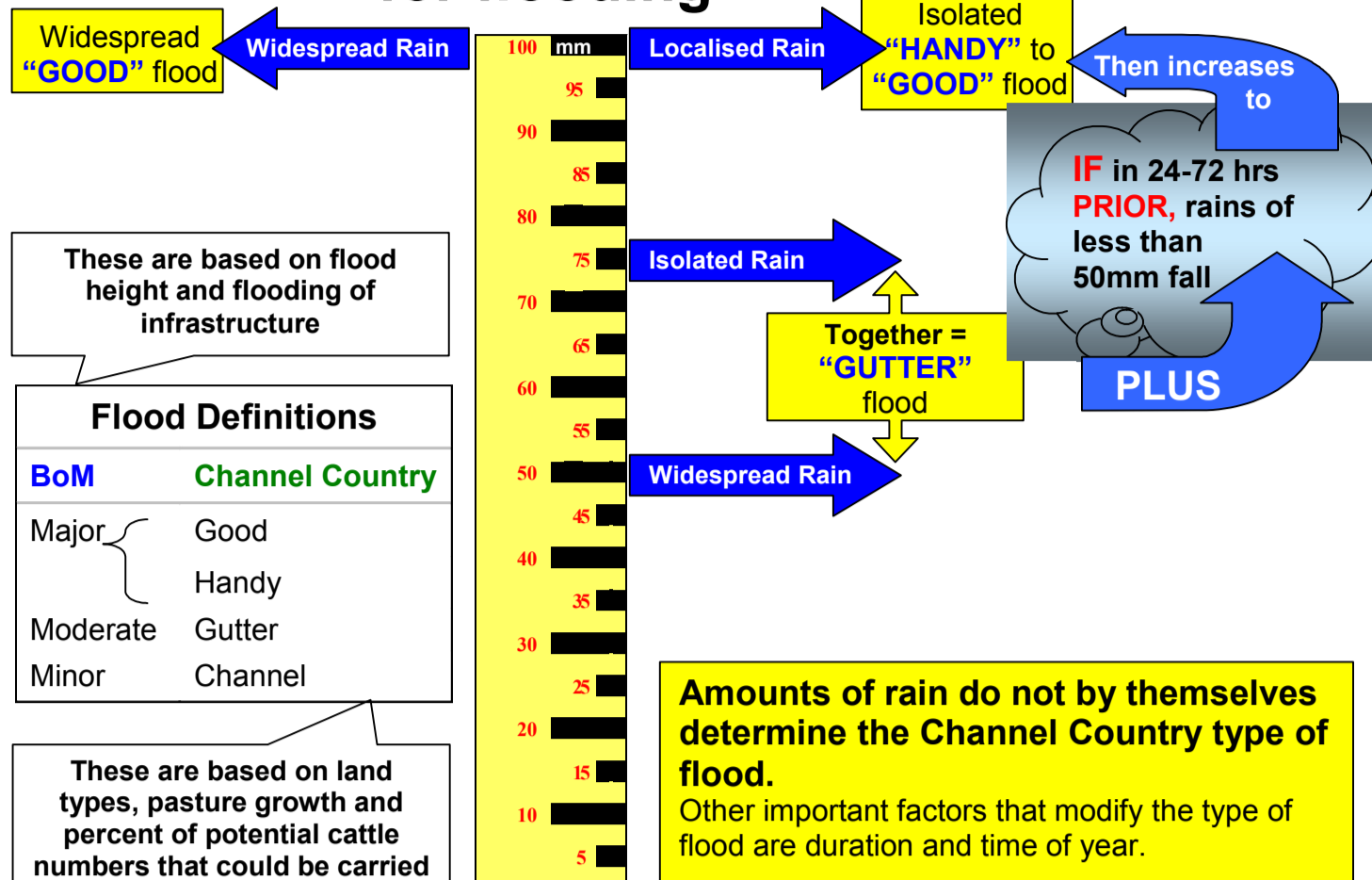


# Cooper Creek Catchment Flood Rules of Thumb

## How to use this guide:

This guide has used the best information available at present. It is intended to help you assess what type of flood is likely to occur in your area and indicate what amount of feed you might expect. You may wish to record your own flooding guides on the map. You can add more value to this guide by participating in an MLA EDGENetwork Grazing Land Management (GLM) training package. GLM training helps you identify land types and flood zones and to develop a grazing management plan for your property

### Amount of rain needed for flooding



### Channel Country Flood descriptions

| Flood type        | Description  | Land Systems flooded   | Hydrology   | Pasture growth which supports:        |
|-------------------|--|------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Good              | Good floods are similar to handy floods, but cover a much higher proportion of the floodplain (75% or more) and grow more feed per area than a handy flood.  | C1, C3, C2             | Flooded across most of floodplains 80-100% inundation                                     | 85 - 100% of potential cattle numbers |
| Handy (or useful) | Handy floods occur when the water escapes from the gutters, connecting up to form the large sheets of water. It can cover up to 50% of the floodplain. There is a large pasture response from these floods but yield and area is less than a good flood. | C1, C3                 | Pushing out of gutters across floodplain and into swamps and depressions 50-60% inundated | 45 - 85% of potential cattle numbers  |
| Gutter            | Gutter floods occur when the water escapes from the main channels and spills over to the many small waterways (gutters) that flow from the main channels. These floods promote growth of a good body of herbage and grasses along the gutters.           | C1                     | Pushing out of channels into gutters 5-15% inundated                                      | 5 - 25% of potential cattle numbers   |
| Channel           | The major channels run and water just spills over banks but does not escape to the surrounding floodplain. Limited feed grows along margins of major channels.   | C1, limited to margins | Major channels breaking banks <5% inundated   | 5 - 15% of potential cattle numbers   |

### What are the Channel Country floodplain land types ?

- C1: Frequently flooded alluvial plains** with braided channels, often with deep and fast flowing water in major channels.
- C2: Occasionally flooded, flat alluvial plains** generally with shallow and slow flowing water. This land zone is usually the furthest from the major channels, but includes higher areas of floodplains.
- C3: Poorly drained swamps and depressions** on alluvial plains of intermittent flooding, with variable water speed and depth, generally associated with the outer lying channels.

### Estimated Summer Flood Pasture Growth in the Channel Country Floodplains.

| Flood type | Frequently flooded plains (C1) (kg DM/ha of useful feed) | Occasionally flooded plains (C2) (kg DM/ha of useful feed) | Swamps and depressions (kg DM/ha of useful feed) |
|------------|--|--|--|
| Good       | 1200-2500  | 1500-3500  | 4500-8000  |
| Handy      | 750-1500   | 100-250  | 3500-6500  |
| Gutter     | 400-1200   | No growth  | 2000-4500  |
| Channel    | 250-750  | No growth  | 1200-2500  |

### "How Often" are FLOOD rains received?

| Proportion (%) of years that rainfall in 24 hrs is at least | 100 mm | 75 mm        | Location |
|---|--------|--------------|----------|
| 19  | 42     | Muttaborra   |          |
| 16  | 28     | Aramac       |          |
| 12  | 30     | Camoola Park |          |

### "How Often" are FLOOD rains received?

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|---|--------|---------------|----------|
| 9   | 37     | Prairie       |          |
| 15  | 39     | Torrens Creek |          |
| 7   | 20     | Lake Gallilee |          |
| 1   | 7      | Tangorin      |          |

### "How Often" are FLOOD rains received?

| Proportion (%) of years that rainfall in 24 hrs is at least | 100 mm | 75 mm      | Location |
|---|--------|------------|----------|
| 13  | 37     | Barcardine |          |
| 12  | 37     | Jericho    |          |

### Legend

- Localities
- Three-way split
- River height gauges
- BoMQ (Qld)
- DWLBC (SA)
- NRM&W (Qld)
- Watercourses
- Main rivers
- Important creeks
- Other creeks
- Waterbodies
- lake
- flood plains
- swamp
- Elevation (m)

### General Information

- Flood height information
- Flood speed information

### General Catchment Area

Mostly isolated or local flooding

### General Flood Plains

extensive flooding including isolated or localised flooding in some areas

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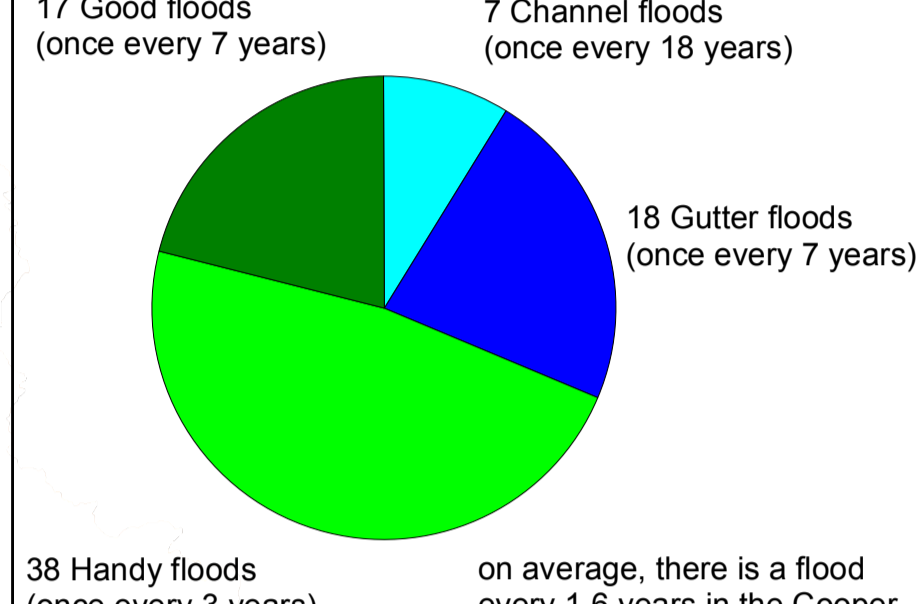
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### Flood events in the Cooper between 1882 and 2006

(estimated from historical flood records from Windorah)



### "How Often" are FLOOD rains received?

| Proportion (%) of years that rainfall in 24 hrs is at least | 100 mm | 75 mm   | Location |
|---|--------|---------|----------|
| 6   | 14     | Opalton |          |
| 11  | 25     | Moreira |          |
| 2   | 4      | Maneroo |          |

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| 16  | 26     | Yalleroi |          |
| 15  | 38     | Blackall |          |
| 7   | 25     | Tambo    |          |

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| Proportion (%) of years that rainfall in 24 hrs is at least | 100 mm | 75 mm    | Location |
|---|--------|----------|----------|
| 3   | 14     | Isisford |          |
| 14  | 34     | Yaraka   |          |
| 9   | 19     | Retreat  |          |

### "How Often" are FLOOD rains received?

| Proportion (%) of years that rainfall in 24 hrs is at least | 100 mm | 75 mm        | Location |
|---|--------|--------------|----------|
| 23  | 68     | Nappa Merrie |          |
| 26  | 65     | Innamincka   |          |
| 17  | 65     | Noccundra    |          |

### "How Often" are FLOOD rains received?

| Proportion (%) of years that rainfall in 24 hrs is at least | 100 mm | 75 mm        | Location |
|---|--------|--------------|----------|
| 42  | 89     | Windorah     |          |
| 21  | 72     | South Galway |          |
| 31  | 80     | Tanbar       |          |
| 52  | 96     | Durham Downs |          |

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| 0   | 5      | Total      |          |
| 5   | 16     | Stonehenge |          |

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